

Hello,

I am a 20 year radio broadcasting veteran having worked in markets all across the US including Chicago, Houston, Philadelphia, Washington, DC and New York to name a few. I have held many positions in the field such as Program Director, Music Director and On-Air Personality.

Currently I am in the DC market and am completely tied in with the different communities in the nations capital.

I believe it is vitally important for stations to have local programming. If this ends, then how will the communities be informed about what is taking place right where they live, work and play? Voice tracking takes the local feel from radio. Stations try to sound like they are still in the community by running small programs or mentions during the day. This is meant to try and "fool" the community into believing that they are still a part of the listeners everyday life. When stations are local, the community expects and sometimes demands that the station get involved.

I believe that the FCC should strongly insure that all programming decisions are made at the local station level. This truly benefits the listener.

A station should be held to run local news and other public affairs programs. Local music and entertainment shows should be a part of every station.

Walks and runs for various local and national charities is all a part of what makes local radio great.

All forms of pay for play should be banned. Record companies should not be allowed to pay radio personalities or station to get a record played. These days the radio stations are demanding money from labels to play their songs. Once it was banned from personalities to receive money, the same ban should have been placed on stations. This just gives radio a bad name in my opinion.

I am against voice tracking. However if stations are allowed to do this then it should benefit the talent a bit better. Some stations have their personalities voicetracking other stations in other cities but will not pay them the same amount as they would have to pay a local personality to do the same job. In other words, WXXX station will have their talent voicetrack a station in a different city but only pay that talent an additional \$5,000 or \$10,000 where if they had a local talent companies would have to pay much more. I believe that this is not fair to talent.

National playlist are not helping radio. They are designed to help large companies get a hand up on record companies and it leaves out the small local artist trying to get airplay. Local artists cannot compete in this way of doing business.

I would like to thank the FCC for addressing this urgent issue.